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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 35 of the Second Extraordinary Session
By Caldwell

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Jim McNamee and the 1999 Oak Ridge High School girls' cross-country team on winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA state championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize and congratulate our outstanding high school teams that work hard, overcome setbacks, achieve success and win state championships; and

WHEREAS, the memorable 1999 Oak Ridge High School girls' cross-country team, overcame a potentially devastating injury that forced their inspirational team leader Katy Benning to miss the season, is one such exemplary squad, winning the prestigious 1999 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA state championship; and

WHEREAS, Oak Ridge capped an undefeated season by impressively beating powerful second-place finisher Houston, 120 to 56, to take the coveted title; and

WHEREAS, this championship was the Lady Wildcats' second state title in four years; they also won this unique honor in 1996 and finished second in 1997 and 1998; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded Coach Jim McNamee has done a superb job of guiding the squad to victory. His boys' cross-country team finished third in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA State Tournament; and

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WHEREAS, two Oak Ridge runners finished in the top ten at the tournament: Deanna Kulesz (18:42) third and Kim Roush (18:54) sixth; and

WHEREAS, two other Lady Wildcat standouts finished in the top fifteen: Chelsea Jacobs (19:16) 12th and Sara Damen (19:29) 15th; and

WHEREAS, teammates Jamie Dermonia, Jackie Sharpe and Cynthia Browne also contributed to the team's success this season; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to honor this team for their many accomplishments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Jim McNamee and the 1999 Oak Ridge High School girls' cross-country team on winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA state championship and extend our best wishes to them for their future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person mentioned above, with this final resolving clause omitted from such copies.